

**FIRE SERVICE COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
February 21, 2017**

The Fire Service Commission held a meeting on Tuesday, February 21, 2017 at the Department of Fire Services, Boards and Commissions Room, Stow, Massachusetts.

**Present** at the meeting were the following Commission members:

Chief Alan J. Roy  
Mr. John Golembeski  
Chief Michael Morrissey  
Captain Michael McCullough  
Chief Gregory J. Burns  
Richard MacKinnon, Jr.

**Absent** from the meeting were the following Commission members:

Chief John Nash  
Undersecretary Patrick McMurray

**DFS staff present** at the meeting:

State Fire Marshal Peter Ostroskey  
Deputy State Fire Marshal Maribel Fournier  
General Counsel Steven Rourke  
Alanna Malatos  
Kerry Weihl

**Guests present** at the meeting:

Assistant to Richard MacKinnon, Jr.

**AGENDA**

**A. Approval of Minutes of January 17, 2017**

A motion was made by John Golembeski and seconded by Chief Michael Morrissey that the minutes of January 17, 2017, meeting be approved as written. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

**B. Credentialing/Re-Credentialing Process**

A motion was made by Chief Michael Morrissey and seconded by John Golembeski to award accreditation to the following:

Credentialing:

- Chief William A. McCarthy – North Andover Fire Department
- Deputy Chief Thomas Murphy – Weymouth Fire Department
- Deputy Chief Stephen Murphy – Hingham Fire Department
- Deputy Chief Louis LaChance – Hingham Fire Department
- Lieutenant Neal P. Aspesi – Southborough Fire Department

Recredentialing:

- Captain Gregg McLaughlin – Marblehead Fire Department

Chief Roy and Alanna Malatos gave a brief description of the credentialing process as this was the first meeting for Richard MacKinnon, Jr. and Maribel Fournier. It was discussed that Captain McCullough will begin reviewing applications as needed.

The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion. Certificates will be presented to credentialed FCAM members at the March 15th meeting of the FCAM. All others will be mailed.

Chief Roy handed out a copy of his report that he presented at the February 15, 2017 FCAM meeting.

### **C. Years of service awards criteria**

Currently the criteria for Massachusetts Firefighter Service Award does not allow for military firefighters to be part of this program. There was a lengthy discussion which included the fact that military firefighters are represented by PFFM and FCAM, are able to take MFA courses, and use ProBoard certifications. The award criteria is not done through statute and is created by the Commission.

A motion was made by Chief Michael Morrissey and seconded by John Golembeski to have staff to formulate language to put before the Commission at the next meeting.

The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

### **D. General Issues and Updates from DFS**

Marshal Ostroskey discussed that DFS has recently filled some key staff positions; Maribel Fournier started as the Deputy State Fire Marshal two weeks ago and David DiGregorio was appointed as the Director of Hazardous Materials Response.

The Marshal then reported as follows:

As you know, The Collins Institute from UMass was hired to come in and do an organizational review of the agency which is winding down, we received a draft that is going through its final review and approval and then we will be releasing it. Tied to the outcome of this report is the posting of the MFA Director, I do not feel we should fill that position while this organizational review was going on. Once the report comes out we will post the MFA Director position. The other key vacancy is the Recruit Coordinator position which I believe is important to have the MFA Director involved in the hiring of that position. We are very fortunate that the Assistant Coordinators have stepped up and are working real hard to make sure that Career Recruit is everything it is supposed to be.

The MTU Report following the incident in October in South Hadley has been released and copies were provided to the Commission. The end result was that we found no gross negligence, no particular area that would require discipline. The review brought back recommendations to DFS that we are implementing relative to some modifications to the prop so that conditions that caused that explosion to take place can be reduced as well as some operational aspects.

The Governor's House 1 budget has been filed and is essentially the budget that I presented before you at your last meeting. Accompanying the House 1 was an Article 87 message from the Governor which is essentially a change of a number of areas of

legislation that's laid for the legislature by the Governor to change the way that the government operates. In particular, this Article 87 will remove the Department of Public Safety from the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security and move it to the Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development. The change there is the building inspectors, the state building code, the Board of Building Regulations and Standards will be transferred out of EOPSS and into the Division of Professional Licensure under HED, with one exception, they carved out one group, the Inspectors of Boilers and Pressure Vessels that overseas steam boilers and other high pressure systems such as that and air compressors and pressure vessels and the licensing of oil burner service technicians and will now be falling under the Department of Fire Services. DFS will be adding a division, we are working through the process of how we will incorporate that division into the portfolio that we have here and working with staff from the Division of Inspections and staff here to figure out how that will take place. The FY18 budget reflects that division being moved out of DPS and into DFS. This does not change anything with respect to the assessment; this is not something that is assessed or would be in the future, this is a self sustaining group that has licensing and permitting that funds all the expenses of the division.

We have applied for AFG grant funding for the fire academy and we have received a preliminary notice that we will be receiving that grant and we anticipate a formal notice that we will be receiving nearly \$500,000 for an additional maze trailer, additional flashover trailer and a tractor necessary to move those props around.

#### **E. Determination of Next Meeting Date and Adjournment**

The date of the next meeting of the Fire Service Commission is tentatively scheduled to be combined with the MA Fire Training Council on March 8, 2017 at 11:00 a.m. at the Department of Fire Services, room to be determined.

A motion to adjourn was made by John Golembeski and seconded by Captain Michael McCullough. Said motion was approved by a unanimous vote of the Commission.

The meeting of the Fire Service Commission concluded at 10:58 a.m.